

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3612

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 5310

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CORRECTION TEXT PARA 4 LINE 9)

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (DAVIS, NATHANIEL)

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF ASSISANT SECRETARY DAVIS:

MEETING WITH PRESIDENT KENYATTA

1. SUMMARY: ASSISANT SECRETARY DAVIS AND AMBASSADOR
MET WITH PRESIDENT KENYATTA JUNE 24 FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION
OF US/KENYAN BILATERAL RELATIONS AND OTHER AFRICAN
QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ANGOLA, RHODESIA, SOUTH
AFRICA, AND EAST AFRICAN SITUATION. END SUMMARY.

2. ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS AND AMBASSADOR MARSHALL
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CALLED ON KENYAN PRESIDENT JOMO KENYATTA JUNE 24 AT

HIS NAKURU RESIDENCE FOR DISCUSSION ON RANGE OF TOPICS. GREETING DAVIS WITH A LIVELY QUOTE WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU AND YOU FOR ME? UNQUOTE, KENYATTA THEN RESPONDED TO DAVIS' QUESTIONS ON HIS VIEWS OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES.

3. ANGOLA: RESPONDING TO DAVIS COMPLIMENT ON USEFULNESS OF HIS ROLE IN ATTEMPTS TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES AMONG ANGOLAN LEADERS, KENYATTA SAID, QUOTE WE ARE TRYING. UNQUOTE. HE ADDED HE BELIEVED ANGOLANS MEANT BUSINESS AND AGREEMENT WOULD HOLD UNLESS THEY WERE QUOTE DECEIVED BY FALSE FRIENDSHIP OF FORCES OF DIVIDE AND RULE. UNQUOTE. HE SAID EACH LEADER HAD PROMISED TO SEE TO PROBLEM OF ARMS FLOW INTO ANGOLA AND TO FORM ONE ARMY. (COMMENTS BY OTHER KENYANS ON THIS SUBJECT WERE LESS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT DURABILITY OF AGREEMENT).

4. RHODESIA: NOTING THAT MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA WERE RECEIVING THEIR FREEDOM, KENYATTA SAID THAT SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA REMAINED. SMITH WAS BEING DIFFICULT, WAS NOT WILLING TO COOPERATE, AND THE OUTCOME WAS DANGEROUS AND UNCERTAIN SINCE MINORITY RULE COULD NOT LAST FOREVER. ENCOURAGING QUOTE YOU PEOPLE UNQUOTE TO PERSUADE SMITH TO SEE THE LIGHT, KENYATTA ADDED THAT SMITH WAS LIVING IN QUOTE VERY, VERY OLD COLONIAL IDEOLOGY. UNQUOTE. HE DOUBTED THAT SOUTH AFRICA WAS TALKING SERIOUSLY TO SMITH, CONSIDERING POTENTIAL STRENGTH OF SOUTH AFRICAN INFLUENCE ON RHODESIA AND RELATIVE LACK OF MOVEMENT. WHEN TOLD BY DAVIS OF ADMINISTRATION EFFORTS TO OBTAIN REPEAL OF BYRD AMENDMENT, KENYATTA RUMBLED QUOTE VERY GOOD, VERY GOOD...WE APPRECIATE THAT. UNQUOTE.

5. EAST AFRICA AND ARMS: THE PRESIDENT REFERRED TO KENYA'S PREFERENCE FOR USING ITS RESOURCES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RATHER THAN FOR ARMAMENTS. DAVIS THEN ASKED KENYATTA'S IMPRESSION OF SITUATION IN EAST AFRICA. KENYATTA RESPONDED THAT EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES SOUGHT A FOOTHOLD IN EAST AFRICA, THAT ARMS FOR DEFENSE WERE ACCEPTABLE, BUT THAT QUOTE EXCESS ARMAMENT UNQUOTE SERVED NO PURPOSE. PRESIDENT THEN CRITICIZED COUNTRIES

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THAT USED AFRICAN NATIONS AS QUOTE DUMPING GROUND UNQUOTE FOR OBSOLETE ARMS. IF KENYA WERE TO ARM ITSELF, IT WOULD BE WITH MODERN WEAPONS.

6. US/KENYAN RELATIONS: REFERRING TO US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO KENYA, PRESIDENT KENYATTA EXPRESSED HIS GRATITUDE AND STRESSED KENYA'S NEED FOR US ASSISTANCE AS QUOTE A FRIEND IN NEED. UNQUOTE. HE ADDED, QUOTE IF

THERE IS ANYTHING WE CAN DO, WE ARE WITH YOU. UNQUOTE.
CHARACTERIZING US/KENYAN RELATIONS AS VERY GOOD, HE
SAID THAT HE HIMSELF WAS IN THE US IN SPIRIT THROUGH
HIS DAUGHTER, CHRISTINE (A STUDENT AT CEDAR CREST
COLLEGE, ALLENTOWN, PA.).

7. CLOSING THE MEETING BY URGING DAVIS TO VISIT KENYA
AGAIN, PRESIDENT KENYATTA THEN CAME TO STAND IN FRONT
OF RESIDENCE TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED, JOKING WITH AIDES AND
TEACHING DAVIS FEW WORDS OF KIKUYU.
MARSHALL

NOTE BY OCT: EB TAKE THIS AS ORIGINAL DISTRIBUTION.

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